

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A particulate material removing filter for exhaust gas from a diesel engine, formed by laminating metal laths having an oxidation catalyst layer containing a noble metal that oxidizes nitrogen oxide in exhaust gas into nitrogen dioxide, wherein the metal laths are laminated to form a laminate in such a manner that the drawing direction of the metal lath processing differs by 90 degrees with each other.

2. (Original) The filter according to Claim 1, wherein the filter is provided with an intermediate layer made of a metal oxide between said oxidation catalyst layer and said metal lath.

Please amend Claim 3 as follows:

3. (Currently Amended) The filter according to Claim 1-~~or 2~~, wherein said laminate is stored in a cylindrical metal frame such that the periphery of the laminate which is in contact with the metal frame is sealed with an inorganic fiber sheet.

4. (Original) The filter according to Claim 3, wherein said laminate is stored such that the side surface of the laminate faces the opening part of said metal frame.

5. (Original) The filter according to Claim 3, wherein said laminate is stored such that the surface of the metal lath of said laminate faces the opening part of said metal frame.

Please amend Claims 6, 7 and 8 as follows:

6. (Currently Amended) A method of treating exhaust gas from a diesel engine using the filter according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, the method comprising introducing the gas to be treated, into the filter in parallel to the surface of the metal lath of the laminate, to pass through the filter.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of treating exhaust gas from a diesel engine using the filter according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3 or 5~~ Claim 1, the method comprising introducing the gas to be treated, into the filter in the direction perpendicular to the surface of the metal lath of the laminate, to pass through the filter.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for treating exhaust gas using the filter according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, wherein the filter is disposed at the exhaust port of a diesel engine.

Please insert the following new claims as follows:

9. (New) The filter according to Claim 2, wherein said laminate is stored in a cylindrical metal frame such that the periphery of the laminate which is in contact with the metal frame is sealed with an inorganic fiber sheet.

10. (New) A method of treating exhaust gas from a diesel engine using the filter according to Claim 2, the method comprising introducing the gas to be treated, into the filter in parallel to the surface of the metal lath of the laminate, to pass through the filter.

11. (New) A method of treating exhaust gas from a diesel engine using the filter according to Claim 3, the method comprising introducing the gas to be treated, into the filter in parallel to the surface of the metal lath of the laminate, to pass through the filter.

12. (New) A method of treating exhaust gas from a diesel engine using the filter according to Claim 4, the method comprising introducing the gas to be treated, into the filter in parallel to the surface of the metal lath of the laminate, to pass through the filter.

13. (New) A method of treating exhaust gas from a diesel engine using the filter according to Claim 3, the method comprising introducing the gas to be treated, into the filter in the direction perpendicular to the surface of the metal lath of the laminate, to pass through the filter.

14. (New) A method of treating exhaust gas from a diesel engine using the filter according to Claim 5, the method comprising introducing the gas to be treated, into

the filter in the direction perpendicular to the surface of the metal lath of the laminate, to pass through the filter.

15. (New) An apparatus for treating exhaust gas using the filter according to Claim 2, wherein the filter is disposed at the exhaust port of a diesel engine.

16. (New) An apparatus for treating exhaust gas using the filter according to Claim 3, wherein the filter is disposed at the exhaust port of a diesel engine.

17. (New) An apparatus for treating exhaust gas using the filter according to Claim 4, wherein the filter is disposed at the exhaust port of a diesel engine.

18. (New) An apparatus for treating exhaust gas using the filter according to Claim 5, wherein the filter is disposed at the exhaust port of a diesel engine.